

Budget Advisory Committee  
Minutes  
October 7, 2009

Members present: Marguerite Kelly – Chair, Ellen Lebauer, Burr Taylor and Linda Hall. Member absent – Robin Brooks. Also present: Town Administrator, Kristi Eiane; Deputy Town Administrator, Terri Lynn Sawyer; Budget Coordinator, Linda Strickland.

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 PM. Marguerite Kelly, Chair made a motion to accept the agenda. All in favor.

**ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

Introductions of the Budget Advisory Committee were made by the Marguerite Kelly. All members have been sworn and have signed the Committee guidelines.

Marguerite Kelly, Chair discussed the scheduling of the budget process. A schedule of meeting dates was established - every Wednesday (excluding those before Thanksgiving and Christmas) with two extra meetings being held on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and November 17<sup>th</sup>. All meetings will start at 3:15 pm.

Linda Strickland will prepare the minutes of the Committee meetings. Requests of the staff for additional information will be made in Committee meetings only.

The initial budget summary will assume that the vote to reduce the excise tax will fail.

**LD1 CALCULATION, PARAMETERS & 2010 BUDGET SUMMARY**

Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator gave an overview of the 2010 LD1 Limit Calculation, explaining how the LD1 Cap affects the Budget process.

Selectmen directed the Town Administrator to include a 1% increase in all non union employees' salaries and wages. The Union employees at the Recycling Center have a contract with a 2% increase.

Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator gave a breakdown of the 2010 budget. The starting budget is \$4,056,137 as of October 6, 2009. Changes may be made to this budget amount as the budget process progresses. This amount exceeds the LD1 limit by approximately \$100,000. The starting budget also assumes the elimination of 1 marine patrol officer and the addition of a shellfish monitor.

Marguerite Kelly, Chair asked whether keeping the West Harpswell school open would be effected by the LD1 limit. Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator spoke to MMA and the answer was that this would not come under the LD1 cap.

**DEBT SERVICE**

Marguerite Kelly, Chair presented an overview of the Debt Service amount of \$640,000. This amount exceeds the amount included in the preliminary budget by \$10,000.

**PAY PER THROW & SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING**

There was a preliminary discussion of the effects of pay per throw on various groups of taxpayers. This discussion will be continued when the Recycling Center Manager presents his 2010 budget to the Committee.

## **UPLAND PROPERTY**

Marguerite Kelly, Chair discussed the question of the Upland property that has been offered to the Town for purchase. The Selectmen asked the BAC for comments on the purchase of this land as well as other Committees' input. The BAC reached a consensus position which is attached to these minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

The next meeting will be October 14, 2009 at 3:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by Linda Strickland